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JPRS L/9925

20 August 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 39/81)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

FIRST PCP FIND--Melbourne--The drug, Angel Dust, known in the United States for causing violent reactions among users, has been found in Australia. A post-mortem examination has found the drug in the body of a young Victorian driver killed last year in the southern Melbourne suburb of Brighton. It is the first evidence of the drug in Australia and the implications are now being studied by police and health officials. The drug, commonly available in the US, is known to have caused hundreds of deaths. It carries the medical name of phencyclidine and is known among users by a number of names including PCP, angel dust or rocket fuel. The drug is synthetic and its use in the US and its dramatic effects are well documented. It has been linked to hundreds of murders, suicides and accidental deaths. [Excerpt] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Jul 81 p 2]

CSO: 5300/7574

HONG KONG

POLICE LAUNCH CRACKDOWN ON DRUG SMUGGLING SYNDICATES

Thai Suspected Courier

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 30 Jun 81 p 22

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

A Thai-Chinese, believed to be a member of a drug exporting syndicate based in Thailand, was arrested by Narcotics Bureau detectives in a Sanpokong ambush yesterday.

And detectives working under the directions of Chief Superintendent John Morris seized more than a pound of heroin base.

The heroin base, when converted to No 3 heroin, would fetch more than \$600,000 at retail prices.

The arrested man, aged 40, arrived from Thailand just a few days ago.

He was believed to be on his way to deliver the drugs to a local syndicate for conversion into No 3 heroin.

Sources close to the police said the arrest followed several months of investigations into the Thai-based syndicate operating in Hongkong.

With the arrest yesterday, detectives said they hoped they would be able to obtain more information of the Thai syndicate and their contacts in Hongkong.

The arrested man is being detained at police headquarters for questioning. No charge has yet been preferred against him.

Mr Morris, the head of the Narcotics Bureau, was formerly attached to Interpol Headquarters in France.

When contacted last night he confirmed the arrest and drug seizure, but he said he could not disclose details as investigations were still proceeding and it was possible more arrests would be made soon.

Informed sources said the Narcotics Bureau is expected to contact its Thai counterparts in Bangkok today to find out the background of the arrested Thai and his associates in Thailand.

However, sources close to the police said detectives believed a Thai syndicate had recently smuggled about eight pounds of heroin base into Hongkong and that it had already sold about two pounds to local drug syndicates.

Detectives believe more than four pounds of heroin base is still hidden somewhere in Hongkong, and they are hoping to track down the hiding place before the drug is sold off.

Sources said that further raids are expected soon on both sides of the harbour to locate the storage centre of the drug syndicate.

The Thai-Chinese man was arrested by Narcotics Bureau detectives and the drug seizure made as the man came out of the Yin Hing Building in Choi Hung Road, Sanpokong.

He was taken back to his flat on the upper floor of the

building where detectives searched the premises but no further drugs were found.

Hongkong's drug fighters are aware of the bumper harvests in the Golden Triangle this year and are expecting more drugs to be smuggled in by syndicates in the coming months.

Customs officers have already been placed on full alert for couriers smuggling drugs in by both the air and sea routes, while police are keeping a close watch on the drug situation on the streets.

Officers of the Narcotics Bureau, it was learned, are keeping tabs on a considerable number of people suspected to be involved in the import and distribution of narcotics.

Street drug prices have dropped slightly recently, indicating a fair amount of drugs is still being smuggled into the Colony.

Large Heroin Seizure

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 1 Jul 81 p 5

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

A major operation was mounted by Narcotics Bureau officers early this morning for members of a major Hongkong drug syndicate involved in importing drugs into Hongkong and exporting narcotics to France and Holland.

The operation was launched after a member of the syndicate was arrested when he was about to deliver five lbs of heroin base to be manufactured into No 3 heroin for distribution.

It was one of the biggest seizures of heroin base in Hongkong in recent months.

The heroin base, branded "Double Dragon," was seized in Hongkong for the first time.

It is believed to have been smuggled in from Bangkok recently.

The heroin base, when converted to No 3 heroin, would fetch more than \$1.85 million on the retail market.

Bureau detectives, working under Detective Chief Superintendent John Morris, were early today trying to locate the syndicate's manufacturing plants and storage centres.

Sources close to the police said that officers of the bureau's Intelligence Unit had obtained information that a local syndicate had smuggled into Hongkong between 20 to 30 lbs of heroin base from Bangkok.

Sources said members of the syndicate are all young men.

Investigations were then stepped up and several people believed to be involved in the syndicate were kept under watch.

Sources said intelligence reports had indicated that the syndicate employed its own

couriers and chemists for converting the heroin base into heroin.

Detectives made the breakthrough when they arrested a 28-year-old restaurant worker in an ambush outside a flat on the third floor of Wai Ching Court at Wai Hang Cheong Sun Chuen in Tokwawan at 7 am.

Five packets of heroin base, each weighing 500 grams, were found in a travelling bag he was carrying.

In another operation yesterday morning, bureau officers arrested an Australian chartered accountant and a British dental nurse in a Bowen Road flat and seized about two lbs of herbal cannabis worth about \$25,000.

Also seized from the flat were a quantity of plastic packets and weighing scales.

The operation was carried out following lengthy investigations into the local marijuana distribution network, police said.

Detectives grabbed the accountant, aged 37, as he was leaving his Bowen Road home at 8.25 am.

They took him back into the house and found a 30-year-old woman inside.

Smaller Syndicates Targeted

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 2 Jul 81 p 14

[Text]

Narcotics Bureau detectives have seized drugs worth more than \$3.2 million on the retail market from three different syndicates over the past few days.

And officers of the bureau's Intelligence Unit believe the recent seizures only formed parts of drug consignments recently smuggled into Hongkong after this year's bumper harvest in the Golden Triangle.

The head of the Narcotics Bureau, Detective Chief Superintendent John Morris, is determined to step up operations against smaller syndicates which have sprung up in Hongkong over the past one or two years.

Chief Supt Morris was attached to the bureau before he was seconded to Interpol Headquarters in France for several years to help stop the flow of narcotics into Europe.

He was posted to the bureau shortly after he returned to Hongkong.

Bureau detectives are confident of making more arrests and seizures as they close in on the syndicates.

Sources said members of drug syndicates are all young locals, unlike those previously when drug syndicates were controlled by elderly people of the Chiu Chow clan.

These days the syndicates recruit couriers to smuggle heroin base into Hongkong which can be easily converted into heroin without the help of qualified chemists.

One lb of heroin base can be converted into three lb of heroin.

The recent drug hauls followed lengthy investigations into the activities of various syndicates, a senior officer said.

So far this week, five members of three different syndicates have been arrested and more than six lb of heroin base and more than six lb of No 3 heroin seized from a packing and distribution

centre in Kowloon Street, Yaumati.

Yesterday, bureau detectives smashed two major local syndicates and arrested four of their members.

One of these syndicates is also believed to be involved in exporting heroin to France and Holland, while the other was involved in local distribution.

Detectives seized five lb of heroin base and more than six lb of No 3 heroin in the two operations.

On Tuesday, a Thai-Chinese, believed to be a member of a drug syndicate based in Thailand was arrested in Sanpokong and more than one lb of heroin seized.

The man had arrived in Hongkong a few days ago from Thailand.

The current price of a lb of No 3 heroin is about \$125,000 and the value of the drugs seized is worth more than \$3.2 million on the retail market.

Heroin Rings Smashed

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 10 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by Charles Lewis]

[Text]

Customs officers have smashed two drug syndicates and seized narcotics worth about \$4 million.

One was a Thai syndicate bringing drugs into Hongkong and the other a local heroin manufacturing and distribution gang.

In a series of operations in Kowloon yesterday, three Thais and three Chinese men were arrested and a Thai drug courier was caught on Wednesday.

Two of the Thais were taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital where doctors found heroin base concealed in their rectums.

The two men arrived in Hongkong from Bangkok yesterday afternoon.

Customs Intelligence Bureau officers believe one of the two Thais is the brains behind a syndicate based in Bangkok, and responsible for exporting drugs to Hongkong.

He is believed to have telephoned a Yaumati trading company from Bangkok on Wednesday before his departure for Hongkong to ask whether a previous drug consignment had arrived safely in Hongkong.

He did not know that the drugs the courier arrested on Wednesday had brought in concealed in false-bottomed hair cream jars had been seized by customs officers at the airport.

He was also not aware that the person he spoke to on the telephone was a customs officer.

He reportedly told the customs officer that if "everything is all right I'll be coming to Hongkong tomorrow."

CIB officers working under the direction of Senior Superintendent K. S. Tong, were at Kai Tak airport waiting for him.

They allowed him and his companion through and trailed them to the Kar Fung trading company in Man Ying Building, Ferry Street, which had earlier been raided by CIB officers.

They were arrested in the trading company's office and, searched by a party of officers led by Superintendent Mak Kam-lau.

No drugs were found on them or in their baggage.

They were then taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital for examination and doctors found half a pound of heroin base packed in condoms in their rectums.

The Thai syndicate was exposed because of the suspicions of a woman customs officer.

Miss Lee Suk-han found it odd when she came across a 47-year-old Thai carrying 36 jars of hair cream and questioned him.

She was not satisfied with his answer that they were samples so all the jars were opened and inspected.

They found 1,620 grams of heroin base concealed in the false bottoms of the jars.

Following inquiries, Supt Mak and his men raided the Kar Fung trading company and arrested another Thai and a Chinese man who were on the premises after 36 more jars of hair cream with false bottoms were found.

In the other, separate operation yesterday, CIB officers arrested two men in a flat in Hunghom Bay Centre after each was found in possession of a sample packet of heroin.

They then took one of the arrested men to another flat in Ming On Street, Hunghom, where they found 13 lbs of No 3 heroin as well as apparatus and chemicals for making the drug.

Hunt for Heroin Factory

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Jul 81 pp 1, 8

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Customs Investigation Bureau officers yesterday seized heroin and heroin base worth nearly \$10 million on the retail market.

And they promptly launched a Colony-wide hunt for a heroin "factory" and the people behind one of Hongkong's biggest drug syndicates.

The masterminds behind the Chiu Chow syndicate are believed to be "ma chais" (followers) of a former Kowloon Walled City drug baron.

The hunt was triggered off when customs officers smashed the syndicate's store room in Tze Wan Shan.

Intelligence reports said the syndicate is involved in the import and distribution of heroin as well as having its own drug factory.

The reports added that the syndicate imported several drug consignments this year, each shipment containing at least 50kg of heroin base blocks.

Yesterday's seizure was the second made by CIB officers in three days. On Thursday, they smashed two drug syndicates and seized narcotics worth about \$4 million.

One was a Thai syndicate bringing drugs into Hong-

kong and the other a local heroin and manufacturing gang.

Four Thais and three Chinese were arrested.

In yesterday's operation CIB officers arrested a 37-year-old Chiu Chow man, believed to be the keeper of the syndicate's drug "strong-room." His wife and a 24-year-old dance hostess, believed to be his mistress, were also arrested.

They were being questioned early today.

The seizures and arrests followed lengthy investigations by CIB officers into the syndicate, which is believed to have started up after a crackdown on Hongkong's major drug operators in the early 1970s.

Some of them are still serving prison sentences while others are hiding in Southeast Asian countries.

CIB officers, led by Assistant Superintendent Mak Kam-lau, laid a pre-dawn ambush in a building at Tze Wah Lane.

They remained in their positions until 2 pm when they saw a man coming out of the building.

The officers rushed at the man and seized 0.5 kg of No 3 heroin.

It is thought that the man was on his way to make a delivery.

He was taken to his home on the fourth floor of the building where his wife was.

The flat was searched and the officers seized another 6.5 kg of No 3 heroin and 12 kg of heroin base in blocks.

Officers believe that the No 3 heroin seized had been "freshly manufactured."

Following the couple's arrest, CIB officers raided a flat in Granville Road, Tsimshatsui, believed to be the home of the man's mistress.

A young woman who was in the flat was arrested after a small packet of No 3 heroin was found on the premises. The packet seized is believed to be a "sample" for showing to prospective buyers.

The head of the CIB, Senior Superintendent K.S. Tong, said last night that the drugs seized may have been from a recent consignment from Thailand.

His officers have been monitoring the syndicate's operations for more than a year.

"My officers, using cars, had been following the syndicate's distributors for several months but lost all track of them after they started using high-powered BMW sports cars for their deliveries.

"On several occasions, my officers were forced to give up

following them because the engines of their cars overheated," Sen Supt Tong said.

He said that his officers have mounted a Colony-wide hunt for the syndicate's factory as well as the brains behind it.

He said he had reasons to believe that the seized heroin base blocks had been smuggled into Hongkong by sea. Powder and paste heroin base are usually smuggled in by air.

"Indications show that Hongkong is now facing a flood of drugs from the Golden Triangle (an area on the

borders of Burma, Thailand and Laos) because of the bumper harvests there this year," Sen Supt Tong said.

He said that this year, up to yesterday, his officers had seized 170 kg of heroin and heroin base, compared to 173 kg seized for the whole of last year.

Meanwhile, sources close to the bureau said last night that CIB officers have been monitoring several other drug syndicates which are in operation and that more arrests and seizures are expected soon.

CSO: 5320/9082

HONG KONG

DRUG ADDICT INFORMERS TO HAVE IDENTITIES PROTECTED

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 5 Jul 81 p 9

[Text]

Drug addicts who provide information to the police will have their identities protected by a proposed amendment to the Dangerous Drugs Bill.

If enacted, records on drug addicts kept by the Central Registry of Drug Addicts and its reporting agencies will not be released without the consent of the addict.

The information to be protected relates to:

- The use by any person of dangerous drugs.

- The care, treatment or rehabilitation of any such person.

- Convictions for offences involving dangerous drugs.

These records will be immune from search and production in court, except in a prosecution for an offence created by the Bill or where the Attorney-General orders the disclosure of information in the public interest.

A narcotics division spokesman said most addicts did not want to be identified, much less put in a Government register.

He added that confidentiality was first promised when methadone treatment was introduced and it was still a necessity to encourage addicts, particularly those who have criminal records, to come forward for treatment.

"If anonymity is not maintained, addicts may be discouraged from seeking treatment, thus thwarting the effectiveness of the existing voluntary treatment programmes," the spokesman said.

He added that the reliability of information provided by addicts may also be affected, which would defeat the whole purpose of CRDA, relying as it does on accurate reports.

Most agencies have indicated that they will only continue to co-operate if the CRDA can ensure that the information is kept confidential and as they have no legal obligation to send in such reports, the CRDA needs their confidence, said the spokesman.

The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill 1981 will be introduced in Legco on Wednesday.

CSO: 5320/9082

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE--Narcotics Bureau detectives yesterday arrested three women and a man in a Causeway Bay flat believed to be connected with a drug distribution centre. In an operation carried out between 7.10 am and 11.45 am, officers seized one kilo of No 3 heroin worth \$250,000. The four arrested are being questioned. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 Jun 81 p 17]

PRISON SENTENCES--Three men were yesterday sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment each by Mr Justice Mayo in the High Court for manufacturing and trafficking in dangerous drugs. A woman was jailed for eight years on the same charges. The jury found them all guilty on both counts. They were Yu Tit-hoi (28), unemployed, Sin Kwai-tong (25), unemployed, Tsoi Chi-guen (31), finance company manager, and his common-law wife, Lam Suet-sin (25). During the trial the court was told that officers of the Narcotics Bureau kept watch on Sin Kwai-tong. They saw him meet the other two male defendants and eventually traced the three to a flat in Wu Shan Street. The police forced entry into the flat and found the three men, stripped to the waist, and the woman inside. They also found evidence of drug manufacture as well as traces of heroin and substances used in the manufacture of drugs. A mixture containing 415 grams of heroin was found in two plastic bags. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 20 Jun 81 p 12]

POLICE RAIDS--Police with drug-sniffing dogs mounted a series of raids around Sheung Shui early yesterday and arrested 15 people. They also seized 510 grams of heroin. The raids, carried out jointly by Narcotics Bureau officers with assistance from the officers from the Frontier and Shatin Divisions and the police dog unit, began at 2 am and ended shortly before noon. In one of the raids, a man and woman were arrested on the roof of a building in San Kin Street and raiding officers seized 450 grams of heroin. Another 30 grams of heroin was seized from a flat of another building in the same street where two men and a 16-year-old youth were arrested. In other raids in the Sheung Shui area, police officers arrested another 10 men and seized another 30 grams of heroin. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Jun 81 p 8]

THAIS RELEASED--The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, is to grant two Thai businessmen a remission of their 10-year prison sentences for drug offences. Manit Phromanonta (57) and Choompol Maneenetr (49) were convicted in February 1977 of conspiring together to traffic in dangerous drugs and of possessing 682 grams of heroin for unlawful trafficking. They were arrested on October 10, 1976, when

they arrived from Bangkok to deliver the heroin to a potential buyer, Mr Lionel Stewart, who was actually a US narcotics agent. The transaction was arranged by another Thai, Preechar Leeyaruk (35), who was also convicted and given a 10-year sentence. A Government spokesman said that after considering petitions from the two prisoners, the Governor had granted each of them a remission of the balance of their sentences. "The two men will be deported to Thailand in the very near future," he said adding that he could not say exactly when for security reasons. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Jun 81 p 8]

HIDDEN HEROIN--A ballroom manager was yesterday sentenced to 3 1/2 years' imprisonment on a charge of possessing a mixture containing 21 grams of heroin. Ng Shing-ho (37) pleaded guilty before Judge Cameron at Kowloon District Court. The court heard that police officers raided Ng's flat at Lam Tin estate in the early hours of May 31 and found 12 bags containing the drug concealed in his wife's coat. Another five bags were found inside a pair of trousers. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 30 Jul 81 p 25]

ROBBER SENTENCED--A 27-year-old man at present serving a sentence of nine years' imprisonment for robbery was yesterday found guilty by a High Court jury of possessing heroin for unlawful trafficking. Mr Justice Addison deferred sentencing Leung Wingfu until Monday. Leung committed the offence in January 1978, but managed to break free and escape as he was being arrested by a customs officer. He was arrested in August for robbery for which he was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment earlier this year. On Monday, he was brought to trial on two charges of possessing a total of 15.565 kilos of a mixture of salts of esters of morphine for unlawful trafficking. The drugs were worth \$1.6 million in 1978 but the current market value is \$3.9 million. Leung had previous convictions for burglary, being a member of a triad society, possession of offensive weapons and robbery. [Excerpts] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 3 Jul 81 p 14]

CANNABIS POSSESSION--A British woman and an Australian man were yesterday jointly charged with possessing one kilo of cannabis with a wholesale value of about \$20,000 for unlawful trafficking. No plea was taken from Pauline Lilian Deary (30) and Geoffrey Robert McLane (36). Mr Alexander Lau at Western Court adjourned the case until next Friday and granted each defendant bail of \$5,000 plus a surety of the same amount. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 3 Jul 81 p 16]

PRISON TRAFFICKING--Two prisoners were yesterday given the maximum sentence of three years' imprisonment for conspiring with a prison officer to traffic in dangerous drugs in prison. Sentencing Wu Wang-chung (28) and Po Ping-chung (29), Mr Alexander Lau at Western Court said he took a serious view of the offence. Mr Lau also sentenced Wu and Po to one year's imprisonment for offering \$1,000 to the prison officer, the sentence to run concurrently with that for the conspiracy charge. Both Wu and Po pleaded guilty. The court heard that Wu, who has seven previous convictions, is at present serving a five-year term for robbery. Po has six previous convictions and is now serving 12 months for possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. Mr Lau ordered that the sentences he imposed yesterday are to run consecutively with those which Wu and Po are serving. The prison officer involved is expected to be dealt with separately. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 4 Jul 81 p 8]

OPIUM SEIZURE--Detectives yesterday seized 5 kg of raw opium worth \$100,000 in a flat in Yaumati. A man (28) and a woman (27) have been charged with possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. Police officers went to the second floor flat at 867 Canton Road at about 2.30 am and found the pair inside the flat packing the opium inside a plastic bag. They will appear in the South Kowloon Court today. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 Jul 81 p 1]

HEROIN IN FISH--Narcotics Bureau detectives are questioning a woman after 1,500 grams of No 3 heroin was found in three salted fish which she was taking on a trip to Europe. The woman, aged 42, was stopped and searched by detectives as she was about to board a flight bound for London and Brussels on Wednesday night. Sources close to the police believe the woman is a courier and that the drugs were destined for the Netherlands. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Jul 81 p 8]

CUSTOMS AMBUSH--Customs Investigation Bureau officers seized heroin base worth \$1m in an ambush in Tsun Wan yesterday--their fourth seizure in a week. A chemist (35), his Thai wife and another man were arrested and are assisting customs officers in their investigations. The couple's three-year-old son will be referred to the Social Welfare Department for temporary care. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 16 Jul 81 p 1]

CSO: 5320/9083

NEW ZEALAND

DRUG TRAFFICKING INQUIRY COMMISSION TERMED UNNECESSARY

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 3 Jul 81 p 5

[Text] The Minister of Justice, Mr McLay, said yesterday that he did not believe a New Zealand commission of inquiry was needed to investigate the possible drug trafficking and related activities of Terrence John Clark.

Clark, the alleged boss of an international drug ring, is on trial in Britain, under the name of Alexander James Sinclair, for murder and drugs offences.

Mr McLay said an Australian commission, for which the terms of reference were decided this week, had been set up for reasons which did not exist in New Zealand.

There were, for example, a number of theoretically unsolved crimes in Australia in which Clark had been implicated.

The Australians also had to cope with the problem of offences occurring under the jurisdiction of different states.

Under Control

As well, major drug dealing in New Zealand had diminished a lot, said Mr McLay — largely because of

changes made to the Misuse of Drugs Act.

"I believe that the police appear to have the situation under control in New Zealand," he said, "because they have the legal powers and resources to deal with most of the apparent problems of major drug dealing."

A spokesman at police headquarters in Wellington confirmed yesterday that no charges were outstanding against Clark in New Zealand.

Mr McLay had been asked to comment on a suggestion in Parliament yesterday that a commission be established to work in parallel with the Australian inquiry.

Alarming

Mr Richard Prebble (Oppn—Auckland Central), gave notice of a motion to that effect and said outside the House that the reasons for a commission could be stronger in New Zealand than Australia.

"There have been a number of alarming allegations made in the drugs-murder trial in Britain about the activities of Mr Clark and his associates in New Zealand," said Mr Prebble.

He said allegations about their activities in New Zealand were even more serious than those about their activities

in Australia because Clark and his associates operated from this country.

"The Australians have set up a commission of inquiry before into drug dealing and as a result have made some spectacular disclosures — for example, those concerning corruption in law enforcement agencies," said Mr Prebble.

"But in New Zealand, despite the increase in the drug trade, we have never held any form of inquiry."

Court Action

A commission could be more effective than police inquiries in some circumstances, he said, because the police could use only information which would support a court action beyond reasonable doubt.

The police had a lot of suspicions about professional organisations, for example, but their information was not up to the standard required by a court.

Overseas experience had shown the release of such information was one of the most effective weapons against organised crime.

Mr Prebble added: "I can think of about half a dozen people who would take the first plane out of New Zealand if an inquiry were held."

CSO: 5320/9084

NEW ZEALAND

TRIAL DETAILS INTERNATIONAL RING TO IMPORT LSD

Peter Nigro Accused

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 30 Jun 81 p 4

[Text]

The crown counsel told a jury at the beginning of a High Court drugs trial at Auckland yesterday that they would hear details of an alleged international organisation of financiers, managers, suppliers and couriers set up to import the drug lysergide.

Opening the Crown case against Peter Jen Nigro, Mr Peter Kaye said evidence would be given by one of the members of the alleged ring.

The witness, who is expected to take the stand late today, would not be prosecuted on condition that he gave evidence for the Crown, Mr Kaye told the jury.

Nigro, aged 27, of Sandringham, pleaded not guilty yesterday to charges of conspiracy to import lysergide and supplying the class A controlled drug to persons unknown.

He has also denied possessing the drug for supply, which is an alternative to the supplying charge.

Nigro is charged with conspiring with Michael Cedric Richards, Guy Rex Thomson, Kerry Alexander Greer and Michael John Griffen from on or about January 1, 1979, until on or about October 2, 1980.

Surveillance

Mr Kaye said that shortly before October 2, 1980, customs officers at Mt Maunganui watched the arrival of the ship Tasman Enterprise from Brisbane and kept it under surveillance.

Evidence would be given that two of the alleged co-conspirators, Thomson and Richards, who were crew members of the ship, drove to Auckland.

They were followed by police in unmarked vehicles.

The next day, October 2, police searched Richards and his room at a rest home in New North Rd, Mt Albert.

The jury would hear that they found a total of 21,000 tablets of lysergide, better known as LSD, in Richards' pocket and in a paper-bag under the mattress.

Mr Kaye said the man who would give evidence for the Crown would describe the organisation in detail.

He will tell you of the financiers who put up the money, the managers who arranged the dealings, the suppliers overseas and couriers who brought it to this

country.

He will describe the bulk distribution, involving storage on Waiheke Island and its distribution at street level.

Contacts

Mr Kaye said the accused allegedly had the local contacts to distribute the drug within New Zealand.

Three of the alleged conspirators, Greer, Richards and Thomson, would also be called to give evidence, he said.

The trial before Mr Justice Vautier is expected to last at least two more days. Mr Peter Williams appears for Nigro.

Accused Found Guilty

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 3 Jul 81 p 4

[Excerpts]

A High Court jury at Auckland yesterday found a man guilty of taking part in a Waiheke-based conspiracy to import LSD.

The jury after deliberating two and a quarter hours, returned verdicts of guilty against Peter Jen Nigro on counts of conspiracy to im-

port the class A controlled drug and supplying it to persons unknown.

He was convicted by Mr Justice Vautier and remand-

ed for sentencing on July 16. Nigro, aged 27, a furniture salesman of Sandringham, had denied both charges as well as an alternative charge

of possessing the drug for supply.

The Crown alleged Nigro was the local distributor of LSD brought into New Zealand by the Waiheke group

and was a vital member of the syndicate.

Nigro was accused of conspiring with Kerry Alexander Greer. Michael Cedric Rich-

ards, Guy Rex Thomson and Michael John Griffen.

Greer and Richards are serving jail sentences of eight years for importing the drug. Thomson is serving a term of seven years and 42 weeks on the same charge.

CSO: 5320/9084

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

BANGKOK LIAISON OFFICER--Two policemen who have all the intelligence on the drug scene between Asia and New Zealand are to swap roles. Detective Chief Inspector Brion Duncan who was sent out to Bangkok in 1978 as the New Zealand Police's first overseas liaison officer, is returning to Police National Headquarters as director of the drug enforcement and intelligence bureau. In his place goes the present bureau head, Detective Chief Inspector Alan Galbraith. In the three years that Mr Duncan has been operating in Thailand, there has been a marked improvement in the detection rate of New Zealanders committing drug offences in South-east Asia. Mr Duncan joined the police in 1959 and has served in Wellington, Porirua, and Rotorua where he headed the local CIB. He also went to Cyprus in 1965 with the New Zealand police contingent as part of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force. Scotland-born Mr Galbraith joined the police a year after coming to New Zealand in 1957. After a time in Wellington he went to Palmerston North in 1973 as regional controller of the CIB. In January 1978, he was promoted to detective chief inspector and two years later went to National Headquarters as drug enforcement director. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 8 Jul 81 p 1]

SINGAPORE LIAISON OFFICER--Cabinet has approved the establishment of a police liaison position in Singapore and an appointment is expected to be made soon, according to Police Minister Mr Couch. Replying to a written parliamentary question from Labour MP Mr John Kirk, the minister said that since the appointment of a police liaison officer in Bangkok it had become increasingly evident that although Thailand was the main source area for drugs destined for New Zealand, the role of Singapore as a transit and transshipment point was important. "The officer in Bangkok has played a vital part in combatting the illicit drug trade in South-east Asia as far as it affects New Zealand, but, because of his heavy commitments he has been unable to devote sufficient time to operations in Singapore and its immediate neighbours. Mr Couch said the police were satisfied that their ability to prevent drugs reaching New Zealand would be substantially increased by positioning an officer in Singapore. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 24 Jun 81 p 12]

CANNABIS MAIN DRUG--Cannabis remains the principal drug of abuse in New Zealand, according to the latest police statistics released by the chairman of the Government's Misuse of Drugs Committee, Mr Geoff Thompson. The statistics showed that in the six months to June 30 this year 82.8 percent of the 4010 drug offenders charged were charged with cannabis offences. The great majority of cannabis seizures came from New Zealand grown plants, with only a small amount of imported cannabis being found. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 Jul 81 p 21]

AUCKLAND DRUG RAIDS--(Auckland (PA))--About 120 police and several drug detection dogs began a series of raids on 36 Auckland houses at dawn yesterday. By the time the raids wound down 44 people, most of them men in their early 20s, had been arrested on a variety of charges. Police seized \$41,000 worth of cannabis, heroin, and LSD and recovered \$70,000 worth of property stolen in recent burglaries. The raids, in the central and western suburbs and the North Shore, resulted from the work of an undercover policeman. The drug involvement was described as street level distribution, 289mg of heroin being seized in small "deal" lots. [Excerpt] [Christchurch THE PRESS in English 11 Jun 81 p 3]

WELLINGTON DRUG RAIDS--Early morning raids by 80 uniform police and plainclothes detectives netted quantities of drugs, including cannabis and LSD, plus a variety of stolen electrical equipment. By mid-morning Wellington police had arrested 18 people. The man in charge of today's operation, Detective Inspector Brian Hartley, expects more arrests will follow. Most of those charged with drugs--including the selling of LSD--and property offences have been bailed to appear in court next week. Today's operation, the third major Wellington drug raid since early May, began at 6.30am when 80 police were briefed before descending on several addresses in the city. Detective Inspector Hartley said police recovered varying quantities of cannabis, LSD and hashish with an assessed value of \$4500. Today's operation stemmed from the activities of one special duties constable who has been investigating the drug scene. It was a much smaller operation than one on May 6, when 225 police arrested over 50 people in Wellington and the Manawatu. Then, drugs valued at over \$70,000 were seized. [Excerpts] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 10 Jul 81 p 1]

HEROIN IMPORTATION CHARGE--Tauranga--Two men were committed to the High Court for trial on drug-related charges when a depositions hearing ended in the Tauranga District Court yesterday. Law Fuk Shing, aged 30, a cargo clerk from Hong Kong, and Peter Francis Atkinson, 36, an Auckland builder, were remanded in custody until August 10 by justices of the peace Mr J. R. Harwood and Mrs M. Rolleston. Law is charged with importing heroin into New Zealand and supplying heroin to Atkinson on May 17. Atkinson is charged with possession of heroin for supply. Both have denied the charges. Detective Dennis O'Rourke, who questioned Law on May 17, said the defendant had admitted importing the heroin, which he had hoped to sell to buy a house in Hong Kong. Detective O'Rourke estimated the street value of the heroin, which had a 23 per cent purity, to be about \$210,000. Law had said he bought the drug for \$16,000 in Hong Kong. [Excerpts] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 19 Jun 81 p 4]

DRUG CONSPIRACY SENTENCE--Auckland, June 19 (PA)--A man was sentenced in the High Court at Auckland today to six years' jail after admitting taking part in a conspiracy to import class A and class B controlled drugs. Kenneth Eric Roulston pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiring to import heroin and one count of importing morphine. Mr Justice Thorp imposed concurrent sentences of six years' prison on each charge. [Excerpt] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 23 Jun 81 p 30]

DRUG SUPPLIER JAILED--Auckland, July 3 (PA)--A man who supplied \$11,000 worth of heroin to an undercover police officer was a victim of the drug scene and a fool, a High Court Judge at Auckland said today. Mr Justice Holland sentenced Neville Patrick Teichelman, beneficiary, who had earlier been found guilty by a

jury on three counts of supplying cocaine, one count of supplying heroin, and another of possessing heroin, to four year's jail on each of the supply counts and one year on the other charge. The terms are to be concurrent, and concurrent with a 16-month jail term he is already serving. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 Jul 81 p 14]

HEROIN FROM SINGAPORE--Auckland, June 29 (PA)--A 26-year-old Whangarei man was committed to the High Court for sentence today on two charges of importing heroin into New Zealand. Michael Shane Granich, an unemployed chef of Kamo, admitted the charge in the Auckland District Court before Judge B O Nicholson. Sergeant Grant Narbey said police and customs officers monitored Granich's departure to Singapore from Auckland on May 8. An associate had returned to Auckland from Singapore on the same plane that day. On May 19 Granich was seen to make a phone call in the foyer of the Auckland Airport after arriving on a direct flight from Singapore. He then went to the public toilets, where he remained in a cubicle for about 20 minutes. He came out, had changed his clothing, and was carrying two condoms containing 53.9 grams of heroin. Granich later admitted buying the drug in Singapore and transporting it to New Zealand by inserting the condoms in his body. He said he had gone to Singapore for the express purpose of importing heroin, and had entered into an agreement with three others. [Excerpt] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 30 Jun 81 p 15]

CSO: 5320/9085

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

KARACHI HASHISH SEIZURE--Karachi police seized 320 pounds of hashish that was in a truck on 27 July. Abdur Rashid, who was driving the truck, has been arrested on charges of smuggling hashish. [GF062022 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 28 Jul 81 p 2]

HASHISH HAUL--Four seamen were hauled up yesterday by the Antismuggling Organization of the Customs following the recovery of hashish worth about Rs.7 million from M.V. "Shalamar" docked at East Wharf. Those arrested include Lascars I.E. Tayyab, Ibrahim and Baher Rehman, and Sarang Taj Mohammad. A case under the customs act has been instituted against the accused. Two officers of the ship, Messrs Farooq and Shabbir, were let off on bond after questioning. The vessel "Shalamar" had arrived here from Far East and was to sail for the United States via West Africa this week. [Excerpt] [GF041836 Karachi DAWN in English 31 Jul 81 p 16]

CSO: 5300/4635

PHILIPPINES

MARIJUANA CROP UPROOTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpt] PC agents last Saturday raided three big marijuana farms in Northern Luzon and seized about P6 million worth of marijuana plants and seeds, a report to Camp Aguinaldo said yesterday.

The catch, said to be the biggest in recent years, consisted of some 62,500 fully-grown marijuana, 200 kilos of dried leaves, and about 2,000 marijuana seeds.

The biggest farm was discovered in Alilem, Ilocos Sur, where a PC team under majors Enrique Cuadra and Manuel Raval, both from the PC anti-narcotics unit, seized 60,000 mature marijuana plants.

The PC team also confiscated a cal. .38 revolver from one Lando Andres, a resident of Alilem, suspected to be one of the four men cultivating the farm. A nipa hut located near the farm yielded 200 kilos of dried marijuana leaves ready for shipment to buyers in Luzon and Metro Manila.

CSO: 5300/4959

PHILIPPINES

COMMENTS ON PHILIPPINE NARCOTICS PROBLEM

HK060206 Manila FEBC in English 2330 GMT 5 Aug 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Philippines has become a transshipment point for dangerous drugs from Southeast Asia to the United States, Australia and New Zealand. This shocking revelation from Vice Chief of Staff and Philippine Constabulary Chief Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos points to us the gravity of the drug problem in the country. It also indicates the seriousness of the danger it poses to the young, and it can no longer be ignored. As the great British statesman Sir Winston Churchill would put it, we cannot help but look at the facts, because the facts are looking at us.

In view of the drug menace that has increased in proportion nationwide, a standard crackdown against it would prove to be futile. The sudden and great increase in marijuana farming has put government authorities on their toes. Their unrelenting tight watch resulted in the seizure of 450,000 fully-grown marijuana plants, more than the total catch in the last decade. The catch was worth a staggering 45 million pesos. Coupled to this is the alarming increase in users of marijuana that has been noted nationwide, especially in metro Manila and other key cities, which have become big markets for marijuana.

Today the drug problem has grown to unimaginable proportions, that only a national effort can turn its tide, as in the words of General Ramos, total commitment from the public and the government is what is needed to combat the problem properly. And this we must do now, before it is too late.

CSO: 5300/4634

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

HEROIN SYNDICATE BUSTED--At Angeles City, constabulary antinarcotics agents have busted a heroin syndicate catering to American servicemen. Five suspected syndicate members were arrested. They include three American servicemen and a female civic leader in the province of Pampanga. The government agents seized about 100,000 pesos in cash payments for heroin transactions, an attache case filled with marijuana, a plastic bag containing heroin, and a gold-plated statuette filled with marijuana. [Text] [HK040143 Manila FEBC in English 2330 GMT 3 Aug 81]

CSO: 5300/4634

BARBADOS

MARIHUANA-GROWING AREA RAIDED; FOUR ARRESTED

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 16 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

POLICE in Barbados have made yet another marijuana haul.

This time a squad of almost 20 police officers, including a policewoman, sprung a surprise raid on a rastafarian hide-out in the thick forested area at Sedgepond, St. Andrew yesterday.

Under the supervision of police northern division chief, Superintendent Lisle Gay, the officers netted an undisclosed amount of marijuana plants and arrested four members from the rastafarian hideaway.

The four youths, Edwin Walton, 18, Rodney Ward, 19, Anthony Detervinne, 22, and Tyrone Cherry, 18, will appear in the Hometown Magistrates' Court today, to answer charges of loitering and cultivating marijuana.

More than a mile from the main highway road leading into the Sedgepond area, police reported that on approaching the rastafarian hideaway, they were suddenly confronted by a raging fire in the area, where it is believed the cult members used for living purposes.

Besides noting that it was the first time a woman police officer had taken part in a drug-raid exercise, Superintendent Gay pointed out that the raid was just the first in a series of planned action, to be taken in an effort to rid Barbados of the much feared cultivation of the marijuana drug.

This has been the third raid by police on areas where it was discovered marijuana was being grown.

Almost two years ago, a combined-defence-force-police operation made a similar haul, destroying some 300 plants in Merricks, near Farley Hill, St. Peter, while only three weeks ago, another defence force-police operation netted a marijuana haul of over 1 000 plants at Bloomsbury, St. Thomas.

In the latter case, Superintendent Gay hinted that police would continue to search more areas for the cultivation of marijuana, especially where the terrain was similar to the rugged Bloomsbury area.

CSO: 5300/7572

BERMUDA

BRIEFS

BAIL FORFEITURE--A bench warrant was issued for the arrest of American born Bermudian resident Kurt M. Kennedy when he failed to appear in Supreme Court yesterday for arraignment. The warrant was issued by Chief Justice the Hon. James R. Astwood, who also ordered that \$10,000 in sureties be forfeited. Kennedy had been out on bail. Kennedy has been charged jointly with two other men on three charges involving conspiracy to import heroin, importation of heroin, and with illegal export of foreign currency. The others are Nigerian Alexander Seriki and Bermudian Keith A. Burrows of Verdmont Estate, Smith's Parish. In light of the absence of Kennedy, the matter was put over to August 3 for mention. Bail terms were extended for the other two men. [Text] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 7 Jul 81 p 3]

JAIL FOR HEROIN TRAFFICKING--A man described as the worst drug addict in Bermuda was jailed for 10 years yesterday for possessing about \$1,200 worth of heroin with intent to supply. The sentence was passed on 36-year-old Berwyn Dears despite an impassioned plea from his lawyer, Mr Alan Dunch, for new methods to deal with drug offenders. Mr Dunch implored the Chief Justice, the Hon. James Astwood, to recommend rehabilitation detention centres for drug addicted criminals. He also sentenced Dears to three years for possessing 0.07 grams of cocaine and one year for possessing 0.4 grams of cannabis. Dears had previously been jailed twice for drugs offences, the Supreme Court heard. He was last released in March after serving a three-month term for possessing heroin and drugs equipment. Crown Counsel Mr Andrejs Berzins said that narcotics officers found the drugs on Dears after they approached him in Victoria Bar in Court Street on March 30. They found 49 silver foil decks containing 0.556 grams of 70 percent pure heroin. Each deck had a street value of \$25, Mr Berzins said. Police also found the cocaine and cannabis. [Excerpts] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 8 Jul 81 pp 1,2]

VESSEL BOARDING LAW--An amendment to the Marine Board Act giving Police permission to board boats in Bermuda's territorial waters for crime investigation was passed yesterday by the Senate. Government representative of the Senate Sir John Plowman said it was to give Police adequate powers to board boats and arrest people on board "in certain instances without a warrant." Senator Jennifer Smith (P.L.P.) said although the Opposition Party supported the bill, she hoped that Police would not misuse their powers. [Text] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 9 Jul 81 p 3]

CSO: 5300/7572

GRENADA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA RAIDS--About 1,500 marijuana trees valued at \$100,000, were seized by security forces in River Sallee, St. Patrick's, last Wednesday morning. According to Commissioner of Police James Clarkson, security forces are continuing the drive to stamp out large-scale marijuana growing. Investigations are continuing. Last weekend, a similar raid led by Sgt. Gerald Romain and assisted by Detective Constables Vincent Roberts and Thomas was carried out in Mt Moritz, St. George's. There, 250 marijuana trees, valued at \$20,000, were seized. Brian Lewis, a resident of Mt. Moritz, has been arrested and charged, and is expected to appear in the St. George's magistrate court on July 6.
[Text] [St George's FREE WEST INDIAN in English 4 Jul 81 p 5]

CSO: 5300/7572

ST LUCIA

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA PLANTATION--Police yesterday made a record marijuana haul, estimated at somewhere in the region of \$3 million. The raid was made at a plantation in the Millet area shortly after 10 a.m. One man has been arrested and is in police custody. Arrested is Pascal Joseph of the same area, whom the police said tried to run away when they approached the plantation. Joseph is expected to appear in court next week. The raid was executed by a combined party of CID and SSU men led by Station Sergeant Plummer who, according to a police spokesman acted on a tip off. The spokesman said that the quantity taken down by the police vehicle was only a quarter of the total marijuana seized by police. The remainder had to be burnt on the spot because of lack of space on the vehicle to transport it to the Police Station. It is believed that more than one person was involved in the cultivation of the marijuana. Several plants had grown to a height of approximately five feet. Further investigations are to be carried out. In picture, policemen off-loading the marijuana plants at the station shortly after the raid. [Text] [Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 11 Jul 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300/7573

IRAN

BRIEFS

OPIUM, GOLD SEIZED--In a contact with the central news unit, the public relations office of the public prosecutor's antinarcotics office announced: Following the efforts of one of the units of the operational headquarters of the public prosecutor's antinarcotics office, more than (?74) kgs of opium that were expertly hidden in the [word indistinct] of a car by a (?wholesaler) smuggler were discovered. The smuggler and the narcotics were handed over to the antinarcotics Islamic Revolution Court. Also, thanks to the efforts of another unit of the public prosecutor's office, 12 kgs of gold valued at 50 million rials were discovered and handed over the Central Islamic Revolution Court. [Text] [LD040350 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Aug 81]

OPIUM SEIZED--According to the central news unit, the public relations office of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that on 3 August the officers of the [name indistinct] gendarmerie post in Zahedan discovered (?271,500) grams of opium in a cache in a truck. They turned the opium and the truck driver over to Zahedan's Islamic Revolution Court. [Excerpt] [LD060550 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Aug 81]

DRUG ARREST IN SHIRAZ--Officers of the Shiraz police department narcotics squad, posing as buyers, have discovered 500 grams of heroin on two Afghans, one of whom was posing as a cobbler. Both Afghans were arrested. [GF091949 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 9 Aug 81]

CSO: 5300/5588

BELGIUM

INCREASING DEATHS DUE TO DRUG OVERDOSES

Brussels DE STANDAARD in Dutch 14 Jul 81 p 1

[Article: "In 1980, 31 Young People Died of an Overdose of Hard Drugs"]

[Text] Brussels -- Yesterday, a spokesman for the public prosecutor's office in Brussels provided a number of data with regard to the increasing number of deaths among young people due to overdoses of hard drugs. They showed that in 1980, 31 youth died as a result of overdoses, 18 of them in the Brussels area. For the first 6 months of 1981, this number is already 16 for the Brussels area.

It looks as if the most common drug is methadone (or methenon). This drug is synthetic, and is closely related to the opium family (morphine and heroin). However, methadone is much cheaper. It is sold as a medicine in pharmacies and can be obtained with a doctor's prescription. In 1977, 211,000 ampules of methadone were sold in our country; 267,000 in 1978 and as many as 472,000 in 1979. Other dangerous drugs are palfium, burgodin, pervitine and wellconal.

Most young people who become addicted to drugs apparently no longer see any future in life. They are found primarily among the children and grandchildren of foreign workers, but also, to a lesser degree, among middle class boys and girls who are bored and have seemingly lost all interest in things of value. When a death by overdose occurs among these unsettled youth, it happens quite often that afterwards, the male or female partner commits suicide either by hanging or by administering an overdose to themselves.

When morphine is administered, 43 micrograms per thousand can be considered a normal, permissible dose. A great deal depends on the physical condition of the user. Beginners especially are particularly sensitive to an excessive dose. Out of a population of approximately 60 million people, 400 to 500 young people die yearly of an overdose in the FRG. The number of hard drug users in the Brussels area alone is said to be 5000. Some young people start with soft drugs, such as hashish, but then go on to hard drugs, such as methadone or heroin.

Yet, there are also a few positive elements with regard to the use of drugs in Belgium. The public prosecutor's office in Brussels apparently knows the names of about 20 young drug users who want to get rid of their addiction. These youth can achieve their goal by following a very difficult rehabilitation program, which may take from 6 months to 2 years. For drug users who are not interested in stopping, the probability is very high that they will die at the end of 6 or 7 years.

8463
CSO: 5300/2406

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED--Berlin, 10 Aug (DPA)--The police have confiscated in West Berlin some 4.1 kilograms of heroin with a market value of over DM 8.5 million. The authorities today stated that this is the biggest heroin find in Berlin to date. It was said that following a robbery last Tuesday the police searched the home of several Turks in the hunt for the culprits. A dog trained to sniff out narcotics had discovered a total of 1,450 grams of heroin. In another Turkish home the officers found, according to the statement, 2,650 grams of heroin in the cellar. The police said that the drugs would probably have been sold in almost 250,000 portions on the drugs scene. [Text] [LD110454 Hamburg DPA in German 1332 GMT 10 Aug 81]

CSO: 5300/2417

ITALY

PCI NINE-POINT ANTIDRUG PROPOSAL TO PARLIAMENT

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 17 Jul 81 p 5

[Article: "Let Us Begin To Counter Drugs"]

[Text] PCI motion to the Chamber of Deputies.

First signature, that of Enrico Berlinguer. A 9-point comprehensive strategy with respect to trafficking, prevention, and recovery.

Rome--PCI Secretary Enrico Berlinguer's name is the first on a motion that the communists presented to the Chamber of Deputies to call the attention of the government and of the political and social forces to the extraordinary problem of the diffusion of drugs and to what one can seriously begin to do to stem this phenomenon. The initiative took place soon after a letter on the same subject that Ugo Pecchioli, Giovanni Berlinguer, and Francesco Martorelli had sent to Minister of Interior Rognoni. In addition to being signed by the secretary of the party, the motion was signed by Giovanni Berlinguer, Martorelli, Spagnoli, Tagliabue, Palopoli, Ricci, Violante, Ferri, Gualandi and Pastore.

In effect, it is a long document, the first part of which recalls the frightful increase in recent years of the indexes regarding drug consumption and deaths resulting from drugs, and the position that Italy--especially Sicily--has been assuming as a base of world importance for the trafficking, refining, and exportation of drugs to big American and European markets. Also recalled was the pre-eminent leadership and management role of the Sicilian Mafia, whose relations with public authorities and with some sectors of the DC [Christian Democratic Party] have already been documented by Parliament. Also recalled is the enormous turnover in drugs which, with their speculative activities, especially in the South, tends to counteract normal programs for productive change.

In conclusion, the serious responsibility of the authorities regarding the lack of application of the anti-drug law is recalled, especially with respect to the following points: the use of funds belonging to the Ministry of Health; the lack of coordination of tasks and functions in the regions; the situation in prisons, which are places of distribution and consumption; the inadequacy of the special anti-drug groups and of the anti-drug leadership in the Ministry of Interior; the nonimplementation of standards regarding the tasks and the responsibilities of education and of those having to do with the treatment of drug addicts; the lack

of initiatives for the promotion and coordination of public and private undertakings in behalf of prevention.

Starting from this premise, and aware that what is needed is a comprehensive strategy concerning trafficking, prevention, and recovery, the communist motion invites the government to intervene on nine specific points.

First: To give a new and different order to anti-drug groups; to reorganize a specific anti-drug sector under the Ministry of Interior, whose main functions will be to report on the trafficking and production activities that are carried out by our country and also by foreign countries, exporters of raw or semi-finished material; and to institute a central data bank.

Second: To propose measures for more effective patrimonial and financial type verification of traffickers and organizers of the drug market, and to prevent trafficking profits from being used for enterprise capital, with particular reference to the matter of contracts and sub-contracts in public works and more generally to the marketplace of public intervention.

Third: To provide judicial offices with the necessary means for complex investigations regarding the trafficking of drugs, with measures that will facilitate the foreign missions of the magistrate and with proposals for the simplification of "foreign requests" for the participation of the Italian magistrate.

Fourth: To equip prison establishments with suitable structures for the care of drug addicts and in any case to foster agreements between prisons and regions.

Fifth: To implement educational standards and to realize the structures provided for by the armed forces.

Sixth: To coordinate regional initiatives, exercising the substitutive power provided for by the anti-drug law.

Seventh: To promote RAI-TV [Italian Radio Broadcasting and Television Company] initiatives and programs with respect to information and prevention.

Eighth: To coordinate public and private activities and initiatives for the prevention, cure, and recovery of drug addicts through a committee of ministers with specific responsibilities.

Final point: To adopt initiatives for better international cooperation on the investigative and judicial plane; to standardize guidance in the EEC [European Economic Community] regarding the punishment of both big traffickers and small consumers and distributors; to adopt initiatives for a data bank and for cooperation with the poppy-growing countries.

8255
CSO: 5300/2412

NORWAY

CUSTOMS TO STEP UP BODY SEARCHES IN HUNT FOR DRUGS

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 1 Jul 81 p 4

[Text] The Customs Office has stepped up its control of domestic travelers in the battle against drug smuggling to Norway. The constantly increasing drug problem has made this necessary, officer Vidar Vestreng of the Customs Directorate told NTB. A housewife from Moss traveling on a train from Copenhagen to Oslo to go shopping risks being stripped of her clothing and searched when she arrives at Oslo Central Station. Customs officers have a room at their disposal for such body searches.

Vestreng said that not all passengers look kindly on being searched when they travel from one place to another in Norway. "Perhaps it seems a little strange to outsiders to be searched, for example, when traveling from Moss to shop in the capital. If the train is coming from Copenhagen, however, it is certainly easy for a smuggler to give a bag of narcotics to a housewife on a shopping trip," Vestreng told NTB.

Those who are subjected to a routine search risk being stripped of their clothing before a customs officer of the same sex. Experience shows that large quantities of narcotics are smuggled in and on the bodies of smugglers. Each year between 2,000 and 3,000 people are subjected to this type of search in this country.

Another example mentioned by Vestreng is the air route from Great Britain via Kristiansand to Bergen. Passengers boarding in the capital of Sorland must go through customs in Bergen the same as passengers who have come on the flight from abroad.

"It is, of course, understandable that people find it unpleasant to undress before a customs official they do not know, but we receive few complaints, nevertheless.

9336

CSO: 5300/2389

NORWAY

BRIEFS

NEW NARCOTICS-DETECTOR INSTRUMENT--A new narcotics detector, using ultrasound, can discover narcotics in sealed cans, thus exposing a common method of smuggling. The detector was developed by the Central Institute for Industrial Research (SI) in Oslo in cooperation with the Customs Directorate. Administrative secretary Roy Skarslette of the Customs Directorate told NTB that the detector is considered very promising. Previously a number of narcotics detectors have been used throughout the world, but so far no satisfactory solution has been found. The problem is to develop a machine that can rapidly screen a large number of cans or other containers. Norway will attract much attention if it becomes the first country to develop a satisfactory detector. He emphasized that the detector could become a useful tool for customs authorities for many purposes apart from screening cans. "So far, for practical reasons, experiments have been limited to cans, but a similar detector could also be developed to help locate narcotics in concealed places on ships or, for example, in hiding places in automobiles. The detector can also be used commercially. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 1 Jul 81 p 4] 9336

CSO: 5300/2389

TURKEY

SEMINAR ON NARCOTICS SMUGGLING HELD IN ISKENDERUN

Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 13 Jun 81 p 3

[Article by Hilmi Diken: "Women Heroin Smugglers Escape"]

[Text] The battle against narcotics smuggling cannot be fought properly at our customs gates because of the rapid increase in transit carriage and passenger traffic via Turkey, it was suggested.

At a Customs and Monopolies Ministry seminar in Iskenderun on "The Struggle Against Narcotics Smuggling at Customs," experts indicated that following the control of poppy cultivation in Turkey, the problem at Turkish customs has been with narcotics smuggled through Turkey.

It was pointed out at the seminar, given for customs and security employees working at ports and border gates, that even in the wealthiest nations, customs cannot provide adequate control in the face of rapidly increasing passenger and freight traffic. Experts said that as yet no technical device had been invented to detect narcotics in vehicles passing through customs, that the best they had was specially trained dogs called "detector dogs" and that they could not "call out" the dogs to keep underground organizations from finding new ways to thwart every search technique.

It was pointed out that because detector dogs obey only the orders of the person who trains them, they could not be imported for use at Turkish customs and that it was necessary to set up dog training centers in Turkey for this purpose.

The experts state that International Transport Organization [IRU] regulations which forbid TIR trucks to be searched or held at customs if they are properly sealed and documented create various difficulties in the prevention of smuggling.

They said that narcotics smugglers use every conceivable nook and cranny, including secret compartments in suitcases, artificial arms and legs, necklaces in the shape of a cross, scuba diving gear, statues, books, special corsets worn by women to make them look pregnant, chess and backgammon sets and shoe heels. Slides were shown demonstrating smugglers' methods.



Underground organizations take advantage of all possibilities in smuggling narcotics. They also use women as couriers. For example, a woman wearing a special corset to make her look pregnant can carry enough narcotics to ruin thousands of people.

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TURKEY

SECURITY FORCES SEIZE 26 KILOS OF HASHISH IN ISTANBUL

Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 1 Jul 81 p 3

[Text] A former convict named Hasan Ozcil was arrested by security forces in possession of 26 kilograms of hashish hidden in the basement of his home.

Narcotics Branch squads found out that hashish had been given for safe keeping to Hasan Ozcil, who is known by the nickname "Charlie Hasan," by Ali Karayazi, also known as "Guitar Ali," and that this hashish was hidden in the basement of his home by Ozcil.

In an operation named "Cobra I," the squads then raided Ozcil's home on Furuzaga Sungu Street in Beyoglu and seized 26 kilos of hashish, worth approximately 2 million liras, and a scale used for weighing hashish.

Hasan Ozcil, apprehended along with the hashish, said that he did not know about the hashish. "My friend Ali burned me. He told me these bags had coffee in them. I did not want to offend him and took them. Would a man play this kind of trick on a friend of 20 years?" he asked.



Hasan Ozcil, in the basement of whose home 26 kilos of hashish was found, said, "My friend Ali burned me."

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